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Sen. Birkholz pleased to hear error protected funding from veto

LANSING – Sen. Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township, issued the following statement after learning \$25,000 for water-quality testing was included in the 2005 Department of Environmental Quality budget. Although the governor thought she was vetoing the funds, an error by the budget office meant the veto was not valid.

“I am glad to discover this funding was not vetoed and that it can now be used to protect our environment. This money is very important to the ongoing efforts of monitoring our public beaches and waterways. I fully support the efforts of the volunteers to keep our beaches safe and am grateful this funding is now available to help them with this task.”

The funding will go toward testing for E.coli and other diseases at public Lake Michigan beaches in Allegan, Ottawa and Van Buren counties.

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